GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3734
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
VISIT OF NEPALESE PRIME MINISTER
CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Nepal visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held by him with various Indian leaders;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) the way visit is expected to foster closer relationship between the two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) to (d) The Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. G. P. Koirala, paid an official goodwill visit to India from July 31 to August 6, 2000 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of India.He was accompanied by the Foreign Minister of Nepal, Mr. Chakra Prasad Bastola and senior officials of His Majesty`s Government of Nepal.

During his official engagements in New Delhi on August 1 and 2, 2000, the Prime Minister of Nepal called on the President and the Vice-President of India, and had a meeting with the Prime Minister of India, which was followed by delegation level talks.He also received our Ministers of External Affairs, Home Affairs, Defence, Finance, Human Resource Development and Water Resources, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and the Leader of the Opposition.The discussions covered the entire gamut of our bilateral relations with Nepal.

The Joint Press Statement issued at the conclusion of the visit highlighted the wide-ranging discussions and the decisions taken to further strengthen the close and friendly relations between the two countries. A copy of the Joint Press Statement is attached at Appendix-I.

The outcome of the visit confirmed the stable foundation of and steady progress in relations, besides reflecting a common approach to attaining meaningful economic development through mutually beneficial cooperation.